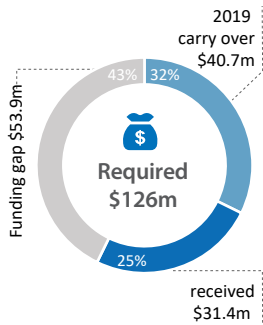




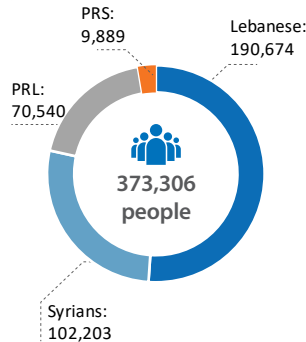
This dashboard summarizes the progress made by partners involved in the Lebanon Crisis Response and highlights trends affecting people in need. The Social Stability Sector in Lebanon aims to achieve the following results: **OUTCOME1:** Strengthen municipalities, national and local institutions' ability to alleviate resource pressure; **OUTCOME2:** Strengthen municipal and local community capacity to foster dialogue and address sources of tensions and conflicts; **OUTCOME3:** Enhance LCRP capacities on tension monitoring and conflict sensitivity.

2020 Funding Status

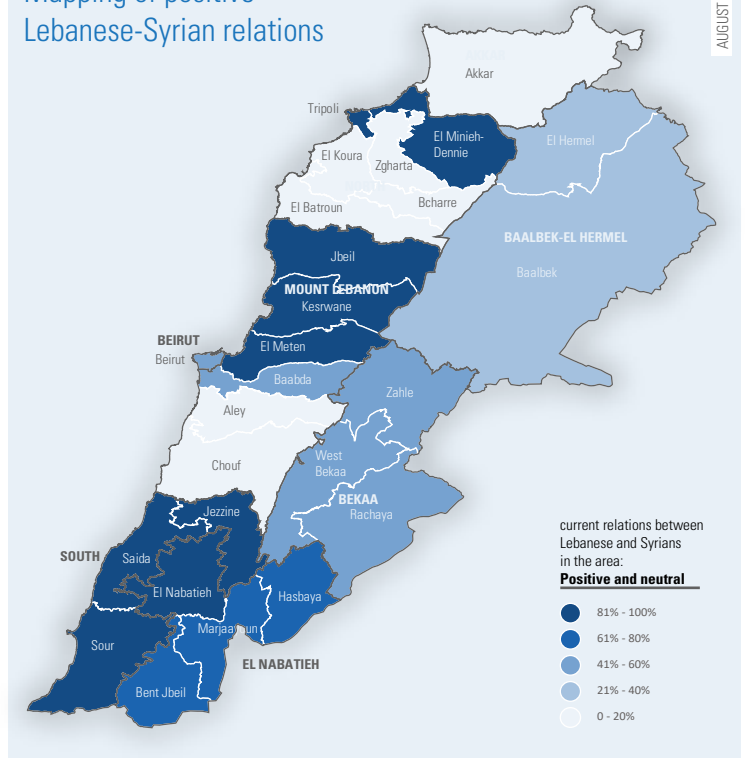
Funding received since Jan 2020



of people reached by SoSt partners



Mapping of positive Lebanese-Syrian relations



PROGRESS AGAINST TARGETS



Outputs

| Output | Reached / Target |
|---|------------------|
| # local participatory planning processes conducted | 0 / 100 |
| # municipalities & UoM benefitting from capacity building support | 32 / 212 |
| # municipal and community support projects implemented to address priority needs identified following participatory processes | 17/200 |
| USD invested in municipal and community support projects | 3.56m / 66.25m |
| # new local and municipal dialogue and conflict prevention initiatives | 9 / 135 |
| # youth-led initiatives implemented | 200/ 251 |
| # youth engaged in social stability initiatives | 15,685 / 35,000 |
| # municipalities reporting on social stability to MOIM central security cell | 0 / 600 |
| 0% | 100% |



Outcomes

OUTCOME 1:

% of people reporting positive impact of municipalities on their lives*

% of people living in vulnerable areas reporting competition for municipal and social services and utilities as source of tension*

% of people living in vulnerable areas who feel that they can voice concern with authorities in case of dissatisfaction*

OUTCOME 2:

% of people living in vulnerable areas to identify conflict resolution mechanisms/ actors in their community they would turn to*

% of people displaying propensity for violence*

OUTCOME 3:

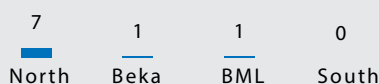
Proportion of LCRP partner informed on stability risks & trends and able to integrate conflict sensitivity in their programming**

of LCRP sectors taking steps to include social stability consideration in their work***

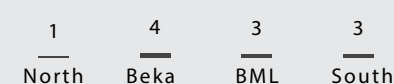
| LCRP 2017 Baseline | Jul 2020 Current | 2020 Target |
|--------------------|------------------|-------------|
| SYR | LEB | SYR |
| 45% | 64% | 59% |
| 22% | 34% | 20% |
| 29% | 51% | 31% |
| 92% | 92% | 94% |
| 31% | 53% | 33% |
| 75% | n.a% | n.a% |
| 1 | 4 | 6 |

ANALYSIS

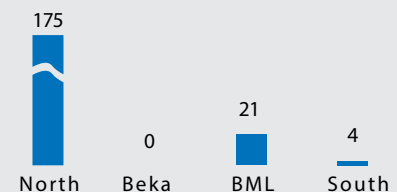
of municipalities with newly established dialogue and conflict prevention initiatives



of municipal and community support projects implemented



of youth empowerment initiatives



* Source: ARK wave V ** Source: Conflict Sensitivity and Social Stability Mainstreaming Survey *** Source: LCRP 2019 planning process

1. ANALYSIS OF ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE SECTOR AT THE OUTPUT LEVEL

Over the third quarter of 2020, despite the multiple crises, Social Stability Sector partners continued their activities to prevent and mitigate tensions. Interventions focused on supporting municipalities to deliver services and alleviate resource pressure, supporting communities to foster dialogue (including peacebuilding activities), and tension monitoring and conflict sensitivity mainstreaming.

During the third quarter, three municipalities benefited from support, two of which from large investments (above 100,000 USD) through basic services projects, and a third from smaller investments (below 100,000 \$) through community support projects. In total, since January, 12 municipalities benefited from 17 support projects. The number of municipalities which benefitted from capacity building activities focusing on service delivery and planning remained unchanged with 32 municipalities covered in the first six months of the year before the third quarter. These interventions aim to engage with communities and manage tensions. Sector partners faced challenges in developing new initiatives during the third quarter due to multiple factors: the emergency response following the Beirut Blast that, in some instances, complicated or delayed some logistical aspects of previous projects and also mobilized human resources towards the emergency response in Beirut; social distancing as part of COVID-19 precautions, and the focus of municipalities on ensuring service continuity of daily operations. Municipalities are also less willing to engage in projects that they will not be able to sustain financially (see section “Challenges”). Despite these challenges, a total of 2,107,397 USD was invested to support the delivery of municipal services in the three above mentioned new supported municipalities (as opposed to 1,449,873 USD during the first six months of the year).

During the third quarter of the year, partners reported investing 1,130,000 USD in five Solid Waste Management projects. This financed five new SWM projects were implemented in three different municipalities, including the construction of a new SWM facility, and provision of 88 bins and equipment to operate data collection and management. These municipalities are now better equipped to collect waste in their communities. Funding was complemented by two awareness campaigns to ensure behavioural change amongst communities and contribute to a more efficient SWM system.

Seven new dialogue mechanisms were established at the community level during the quarter, for a total of nine new dialogue mechanisms established since January. This falls behind the yearly objective of 150 new mechanisms. Given COVID-19 lockdown measures, activities were shifted to support existing dialogue mechanisms and groups instead of setting up new ones. Activities focused on continuing to foster dialogue and mitigating tensions at the local level. To note that 173 dialogue mechanisms have already been created over the last three years. Currently, there are 47 community groups actively engaged in their communities, performing their conflict analysis and defining peacebuilding activities that will take place until 2022. In Quarter 3, the groups established in 2018



FACTS AND FIGURES

88% of people believe the Lebanese people have been good hosts to refugees since 2011

85% of people agree that the presence of so many Syrian refugees is placing too much strain on Lebanon's resources like water and electricity

33% of Syrian families have experienced verbal or physical harrasment in the last three months

32% of people reported that current relations between Lebanese and Syrian individuals are negative in their areas.

Source: ARK & UNDP, Regular Perception Surveys of Social Tensions in Lebanon: Wave VIII+ (August 2020)

and 2019 were mobilized for sharing their experiences and expertise for local context updates, address the needs of communities and tension mitigation. Projects carried out focused on activities that could be done remotely. This resulted in shifting activities toward designing and implementing a communication campaign to counter fake news and stigmatization on social media, jointly elaborated by several international actors and the Ministry of Public Health. Sector partners also invested in strengthening aid localization, with nine newly trained local organizations now able to establish dialogue mechanisms and steer tension mitigation at the local level.

Interventions involving youth were resumed during the third quarter following the end of the general lockdown. A total of 194 new initiatives were launched during this quarter (200 throughout the year), focusing on active citizenship and cultural activities. At the end of September, these had already resulted in 10 local campaigns or actions directly led by youth on local issues. Complementary to this, 160 new peacebuilding clubs were established throughout the country. The sector counts 15,685 youth engaged in peacebuilding initiatives, with a final yearly objective of 35,000 youth. This result was partially achieved through social media and social media moderation, which resulted in an increased ability to identify and handle fake news. For example, some of the trainees initiated the first youth-led COVID-19 response fact-checking initiative in Lebanon. Trained youth actors also established Facebook and Instagram pages that serve as platforms to monitor, detect and debunk fake news spread in their communities, starting with COVID-19 news, by using fact-checking tools and techniques and coordinating with trusted sources to spread only accurate and verified news. The pages have already debunked several fake news.¹

The third quarter also allowed partners to resume some in-person activities while respecting social distancing measures. This allowed the sector to reach 8,852 youth during this quarter as

1. Monitoring of the joint project with Dawaer NGO and UNDP on countering fake news at the local level.

opposed to 6,833 during the first six months of the year. Activities included active citizenship and community service initiatives, recreational and cultural activities, as well as life skills and conflict resolution training. No new media organizations were mobilised, however 11 journalists were trained on objective and positive reporting. With eight journalists engaged before this quarter, a total of 19 journalists were trained through the first nine months of the year, which represents 42% of the yearly objective. However, results fall behind in terms gender balance on this matter with only one of the trainees being a woman.

Finally, training and mentoring on conflict sensitivity have reached a broad set of participants across the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan, including 60 new partners in 2020. Four of the 60 partners trained in 2020 are currently benefitting from in-depth training to review their conflict sensitivity processes. As of September, nine tension monitoring briefs out of 14 planned for the year had been published and disseminated through various instances, thus successfully feeding into strategy definition, implementation, coordination, and capacity building of actors.

Gender-data analysis: in sectors and areas where data is available, compare information about men and women. This should reveal where there are gaps and inequalities that are likely to affect women's or men's participation rates, access to services, fulfillment of basic needs, health status, vulnerability status, etc. The analysis should also provide understanding of why these gaps and disparities exist.

2. CHALLENGES

Lebanon's compounded crises is causing further pressure on resources along with increased vulnerabilities for both hosts and refugees' communities. In this context, partners are facing increased pressure to meet the growing needs while having limited funds and capacity.

Aid perception bias is also increasing and is having negative consequences on intercommunal tensions. As of July 2020, 80% of respondents of perception survey agree with the statement that vulnerable Lebanese were neglected in international aid and assistance programs. Inter- and intra-communal relations are also degrading across the country. In July 2020, 18% of Lebanese were reporting positive relations among themselves (as opposed to 41% last year). In parallel, 17% of the population (host and displaced) reported positive relations between Syrian refugees and Lebanese (while 23% reported last year). These tensions are expected to increase with the further deterioration of the socio-economic situation, the expected removal of subsidies announced by the Central Bank of Lebanon, as well as the impact of the winter storms. In this context, it is highly crucial for the Social Stability Sector to continue to implement activities to mitigate tensions, and support partners across the response to ensure that all activities are implemented in a conflict sensitive manner.

For Social Stability partners, the limited ability of local authorities to finance their activities to provide basic services under their mandate is impairing their ability to implement interventions with local authorities. Community support projects often require

co-funding from local actors or the local government counterpart. Program redesign or lifting of co-funding requirements by donors might be necessary to avoid a disruption of municipal services. Furthermore, partners are reporting a decreased interest of municipalities in investing time in projects, expressing they will not be able to maintain operations once support stops due to the lack of financing.

Finally, partners report a decreased mobilisation of local communities in fostering dialogue initiatives. Reportedly, local communities are prioritizing other matters that they consider more pressing (such as ensuring stable livelihood). Given that this mobilization is critical in creating a favourable protective environment for vulnerable groups, especially considering the current situation, further work to mobilize beneficiaries will be required.

3. KEY PRIORITIES AND GAPS FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER 2020

In quarter 4, the sector will focus on the continuity of activities under Outcome 1 and Outcomes 2. As of now, sector funding remains limited and as a consequence, many results did not materialize. While community engagement of youth has picked up compared to three months ago, investments with municipalities remain relatively limited. Ensuring the continuity of service delivery at the municipal level to relieve pressure on resources and services is a key priority for quarter 4 given the negative trend of tensions.

The sector's key priorities will also revolve around strengthening partners capacities in terms of tension monitoring and conflict sensitivity and mitigating inter- and intra-communal tensions as well as incidents of violence. The sector will further build partners' capacities in ensuring conflict sensitivity mainstreaming and ensure that conflict sensitive approach is tailored to the local context while relying on lessons learned and international best practices. This will be tackled with a series of workshop involving partners to ultimately develop four guidance notes for conflict sensitivity programming in Lebanon.

CASE STUDY

Right to Play (RTP) works on strengthening social stability through its "Sports for Development" programs with children and youth. Such interventions display in general very positive outcomes in terms of social stability. At the endline evaluation of the previous "Football for Development" project (October 2019) with over 3000 beneficiaries, 73.5% reported feeling comfortable playing with children from other nationalities. This represented a 7.8% increase compared to the baseline survey that took place before the start of activities in November 2018. In addition, 40.7% of girl beneficiaries reported making friends with children from other nationalities compared to 11.8% in the control group.

During 2020, one of RTP's implemented projects, "I Move Lebanon – Kids' Athletics" aimed to develop children's physical, mental, and life skills and promote peaceful communities. The principle was to team up children from 6 to 12-year-old from different backgrounds and nationalities to participate together in games, tournaments and community initiatives.

To do so, coaches were trained on the Play-Based Learning methodology to deliver sessions that focus on individual and group life skills (such as communication, problem solving, and teamwork) and messages around peaceful relations embedded in the sports activities. Throughout the implementation, RTP ensures a proper follow-up with the coaches, and encourage them to plan community initiatives using a child-participatory approach. For instance, coaches from Tripoli were involved in response activities done with children affected by Beirut blast.

The success of the approach relies on ensuring that participants have diverse ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds. In this specific project, part of the beneficiaries were located in Palestinian camps, including Burj el Barajneh, Naher El Bered and Beddawi camps, in addition to mixed areas with Syrian and Lebanese participants.

Due to the multiple lockdowns, the activities were remodelled. In fact, the games originally planned as a tournament

were implemented one at a time and with a minimal physical interaction, the live sports sessions were replaced by videos shared by the participants to generate virtual engagement, and the play days were conducted with compliance to COVID-19 regulations (social distancing, smaller groups and open fields).

Despite the many challenges related to COVID-19, the mitigation measures put in place allowed the continuity of the program, but with a lower reach compared to the initial target and with some activities cancelled. While the initial target was to reach 2,450 children, all activities in public schools were cancelled. A total of 593 children were reached throughout the year, with 150 children reached online during lockdown periods, while the remaining activities will be implemented in 2021. As part of RTP's monitoring and evaluation process, both the effect of the lockdown and of the newly proposed virtual sports activities on children will be assessed, with some lesson learnt currently being analysed to improve the programming of similar activities in the context of Covid-19.



Source: Right to Play, 2020